How to become a dragon

- Episode 176 -

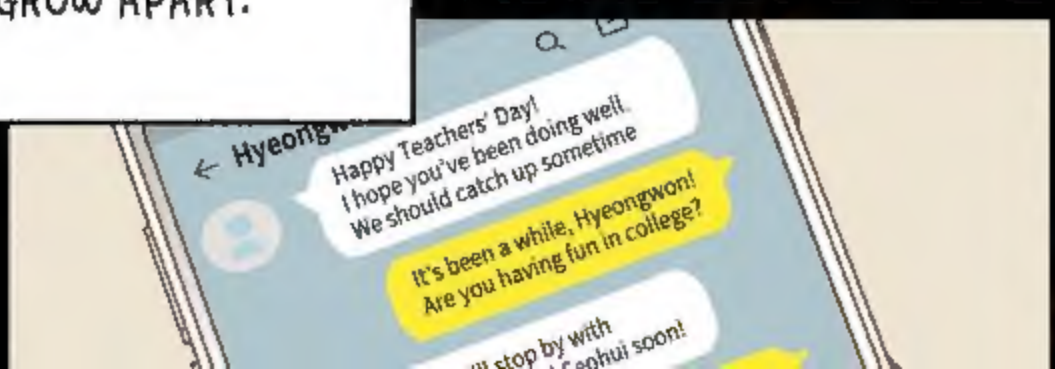
CERTAIN THINGS...

...COME WITH BEING A TUTOR.

YOU
WORK HARD
WITH YOUR STUDENTS
UNTIL THEY TAKE
THEIR EXAM.

YOU'RE MORE
OF A FRIEND THAN
A TEACHER, AND YOU
RUN TOWARD THE
SAME GOAL...

...BUT ONCE
THE EXAM IS OVER,
YOU NATURALLY
GROW APART.


Happy Teachers' Day!
I hope you've been doing well.
We should catch up sometime
It's been a while, Hyeongwon!
Are you having fun in college?

IT'S ONLY NATURAL, I GUESS.

IF MY STUDENTS CAME BACK TO ME, I'D JUST ASK IF THEY FAILED THEIR EXAM THE FIRST TIME.

AFTER OUR GOAL HAS BEEN ACHIEVED, WE GO OUR SEPARATE WAYS...

...AND WE JUST GREET EACH OTHER A COUPLE OF TIMES A YEAR.

I DON'T THINK...
...I'LL NEED YOUR HELP.

...

THE MORE I THINK ABOUT IT, THE MORE UNBELIEVABLE IT IS.
HE'S ALWAYS SAYING "CONFUCIUS THIS," "CONFUCIUS THAT," BUT WHERE DID HE LEARN HIS HUMAN MANNERS FROM?
UPSET
HE SHOULD JUST LET HIS RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER PEOPLE FIZZLE OUT. HOW COULD HE JUST CUT ME OFF LIKE THAT?
EVEN IF MY ROLE IS JUST TO BE

YOUR TRAINING WHEELS...

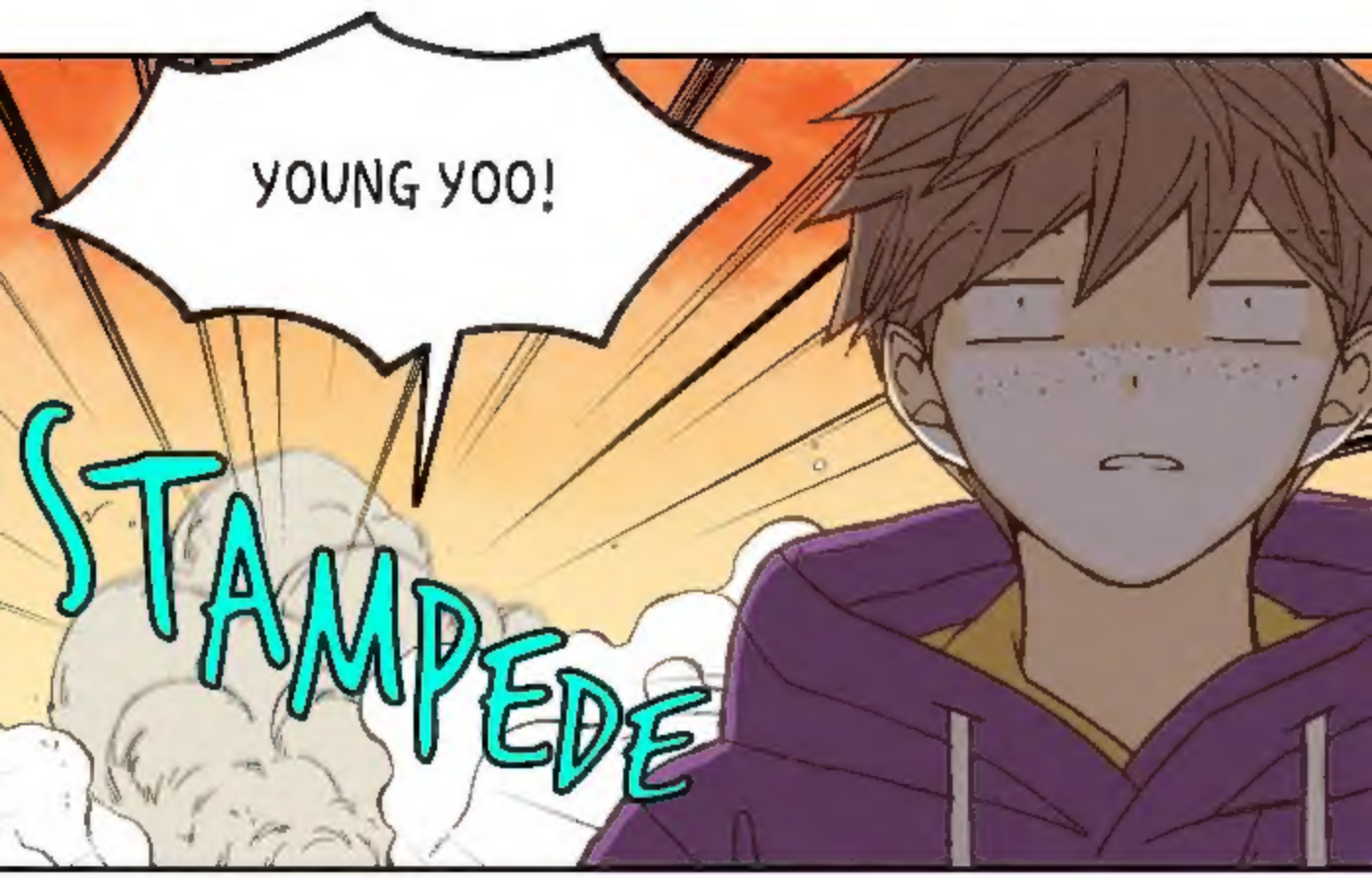
SQUEAK

SQUEAK

...I NEED TIME TO PREPARE MYSELF FOR WHEN YOU CAN RIDE AWAY ON YOUR OWN.

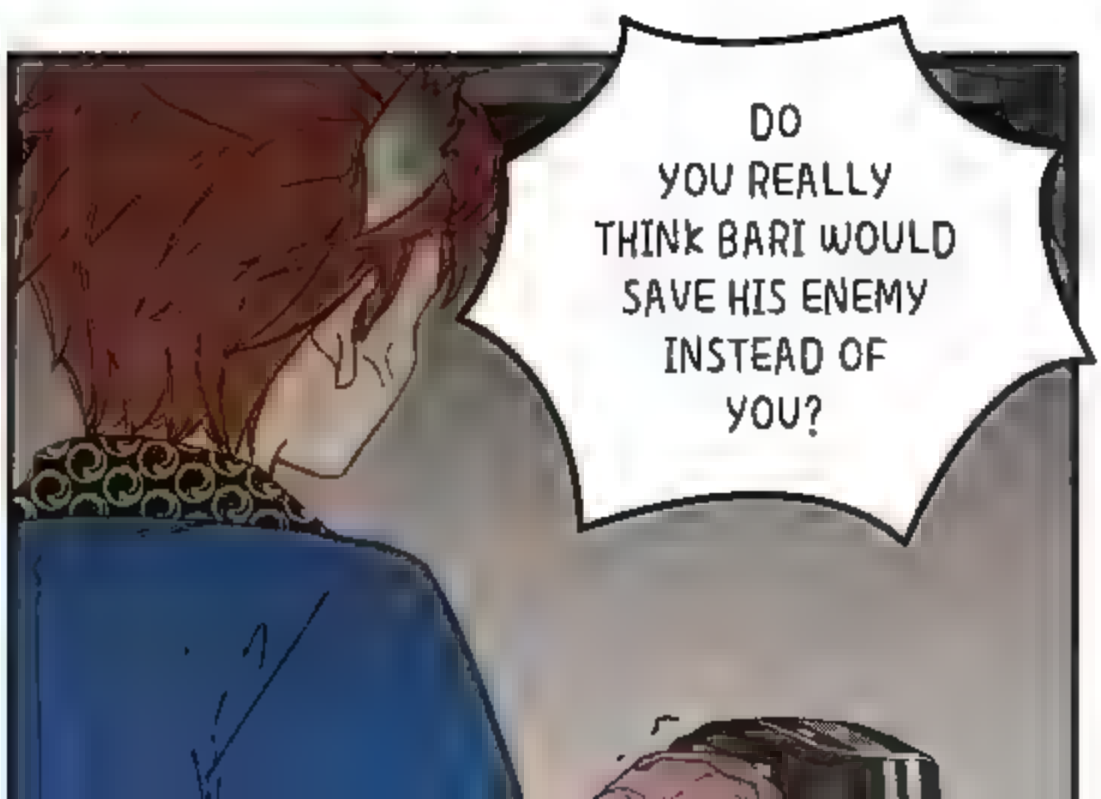
SHOULDN'T WE SETTLE ON A TIME...

...FOR ME TO DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT TO LET GO OF YOUR WHEELS?



SNAP
OUT OF IT,

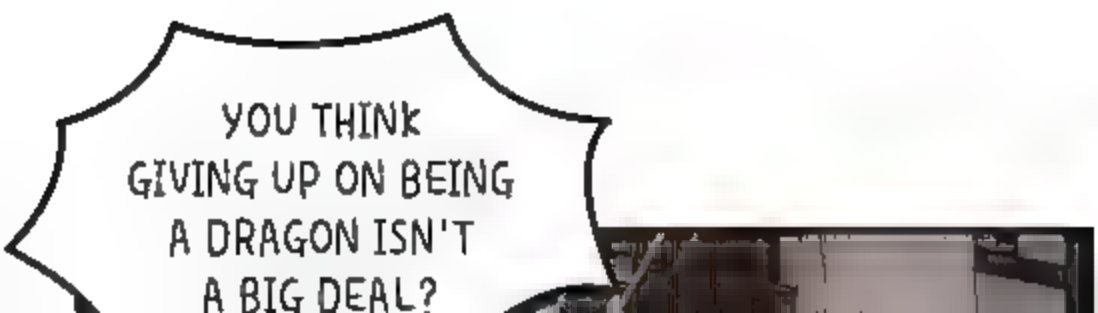
BOZO!
WHAM
GAK...


DO YOU REALLY THINK BARI WOULD SAVE HIS ENEMY INSTEAD OF YOU?

HE MIGHT NOT BE THAT BRIGHT, BUT HE'S NOT A TOTAL FOOL!

I THINK...
...HE THINKS IT'S A SHAME TO KILL HIM INSTANTLY, SO HE CALLED HIM AWAY TO VICIOUSLY TORTURE HIM.
HE'S NOT YOU, YOU KNOW.

WELL...
FROM WHAT
I'VE SEEN...
...HE'D RATHER
GIVE UP ON BEING
A DRAGON THAN KILL
A HUMAN.
I'M
SURE IT WON'T BE
A BIG DEAL.


YOU THINK
GIVING UP ON BEING
A DRAGON ISN'T
A BIG DEAL?

SHOUT
WHAT ARE YOU EVEN TALKING ABOUT?
THEN DO YOU REALLY THINK HE'D KILL A HUMAN INSTEAD OF GIVING UP ON ASCENSION?

CHEW
CHEW
CHEW
CHEW
CHEW
...
SEE?

I JUST DON'T GET IT!
GRRRR
IF HE CAN BECOME A DRAGON AND KILL HIS ENEMY, HE CAN KILL TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE AND THEN EVERYONE IS HAPPY!
WHY IS HE EVEN GIVING THIS ANY THOUGHT? WHY HESITATE?

DON'T BE SO QUICK TO JUDGE OTHER PEOPLE'S SITUATIONS.
DO YOU THINK YOU'D BE ABLE TO DO THAT?

ME? WHY NOT?
IF HAENGSU PARK WAS HERE, I'D KILL HIM OVER AND OVER AND OVER AGAIN
NOT THAT.

YOU SAID THAT YOU'D DRINK THAT POISONED WINE EARLIER.
THAT WAS...
I MEAN...
...

WHY ARE YOU SAYING USELESS STUFF LIKE THAT?
ARE YOU REALLY TAKING BARI'S SIDE RIGHT NOW?
WHY ARE YOU BEING SUCH A WIMP? YOU WERE NEVER LIKE THIS BEFORE!
DID YOU GET THAT FROM BARI?

IT'S NOT THAT,
I'M JUST...

...

BARI'S ALREADY TAKEN OFF HIS TRAINING WHEELS.
NO, MAYBE HE NEVER NEEDED TRAINING WHEELS IN THE FIRST PLACE.

HE FINDS ANSWERS ON HIS OWN FROM UNLIKELY PLACES...

...AND HE'S TAKING BIGGER STRIDES...

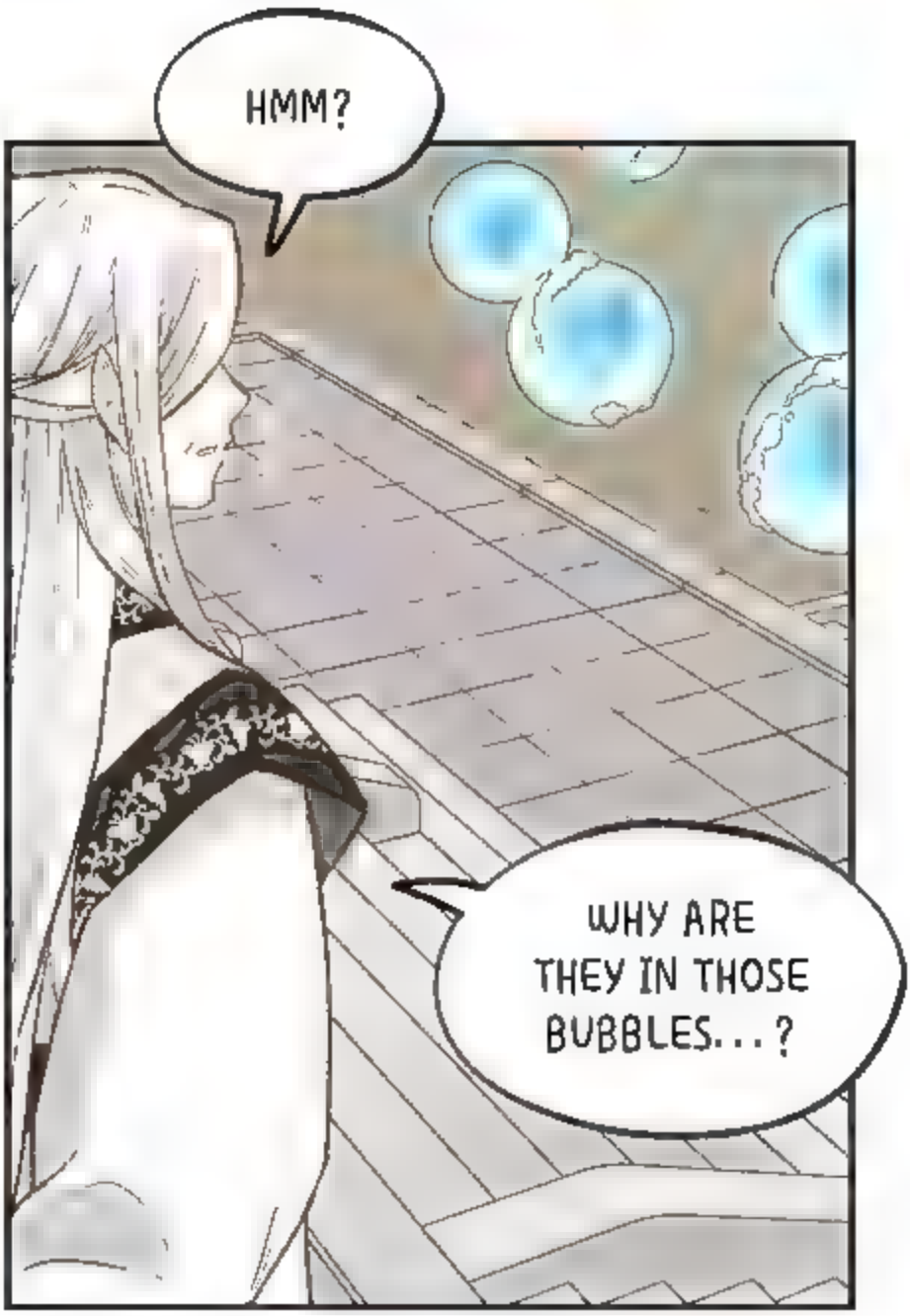
...THAN I EXPECTED.
IT JUST FEELS LIKE HE REALLY...
...DOESN'T NEED MY HELP ANYMORE...

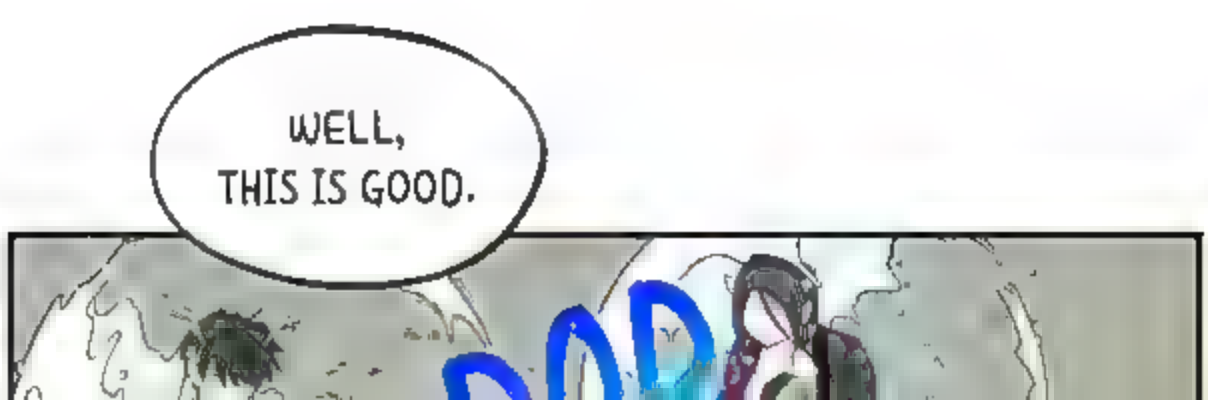
UGH, ARE YOU SERIOUSLY GONNA KEEP SAYING CRAP LIKE THAT?
OPEN
EXCUSE ME...

WHAT IS IT?
PLEASE

FOLLOW ME.
THE DRAGON KING REQUESTS THAT YOU ALL COME OUT.
SHE WOULD LIKE EVERYONE TO BE PRESENT....
...AT THE BIRTH OF THE NEXT NAKDONG RIVER DRAGON.

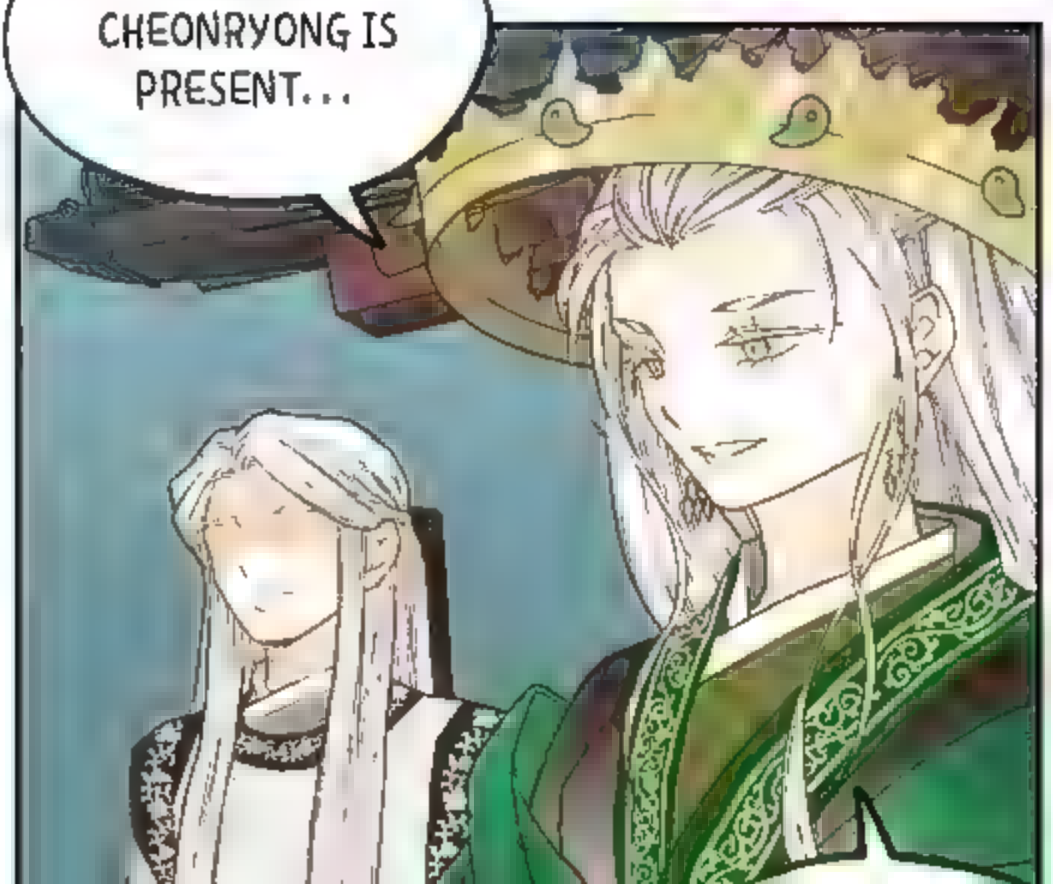
NOW...
EVERYONE, COME THIS WAY.

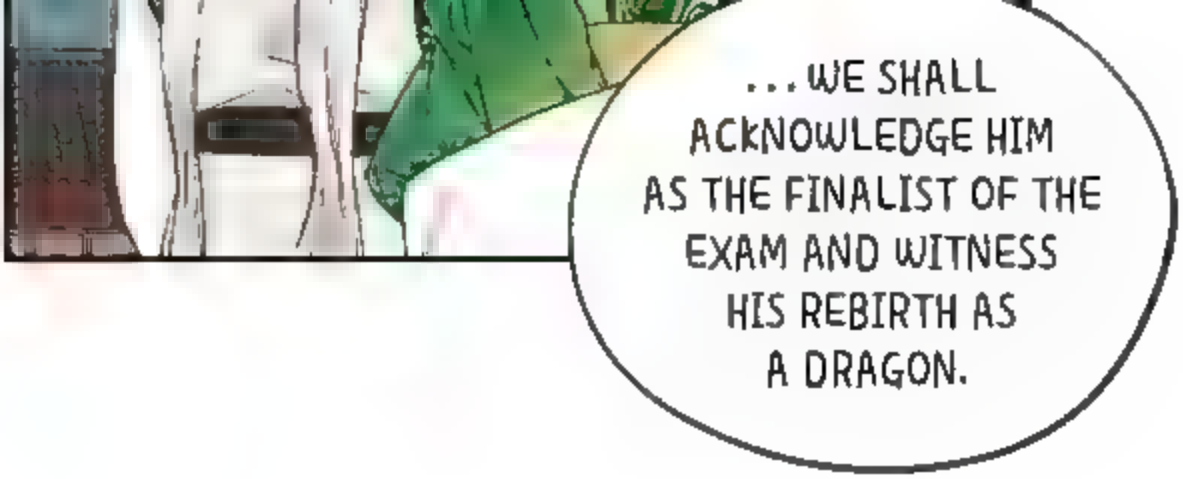

HMM?
WHY ARE THEY IN THOSE BUBBLES...?

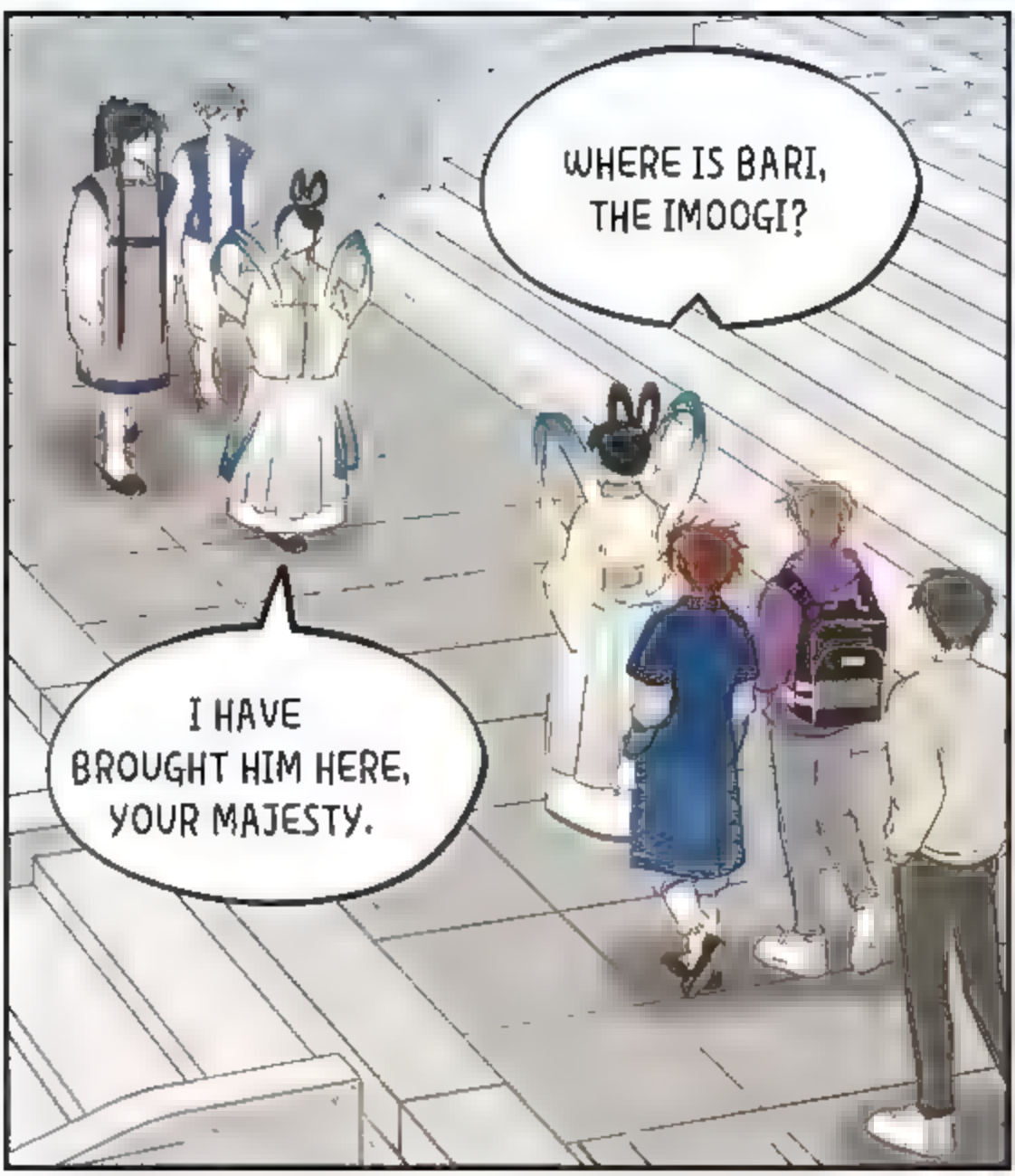

WELL, THIS IS GOOD.

IT WILL BE MEANINGFUL TO HAVE ALL EXAMINEES PRESENT AT THE CELEBRATION.

SINCE CHEONRYONG IS PRESENT...




...WE SHALL ACKNOWLEDGE HIM AS THE FINALIST OF THE EXAM AND WITNESS HIS REBIRTH AS A DRAGON.

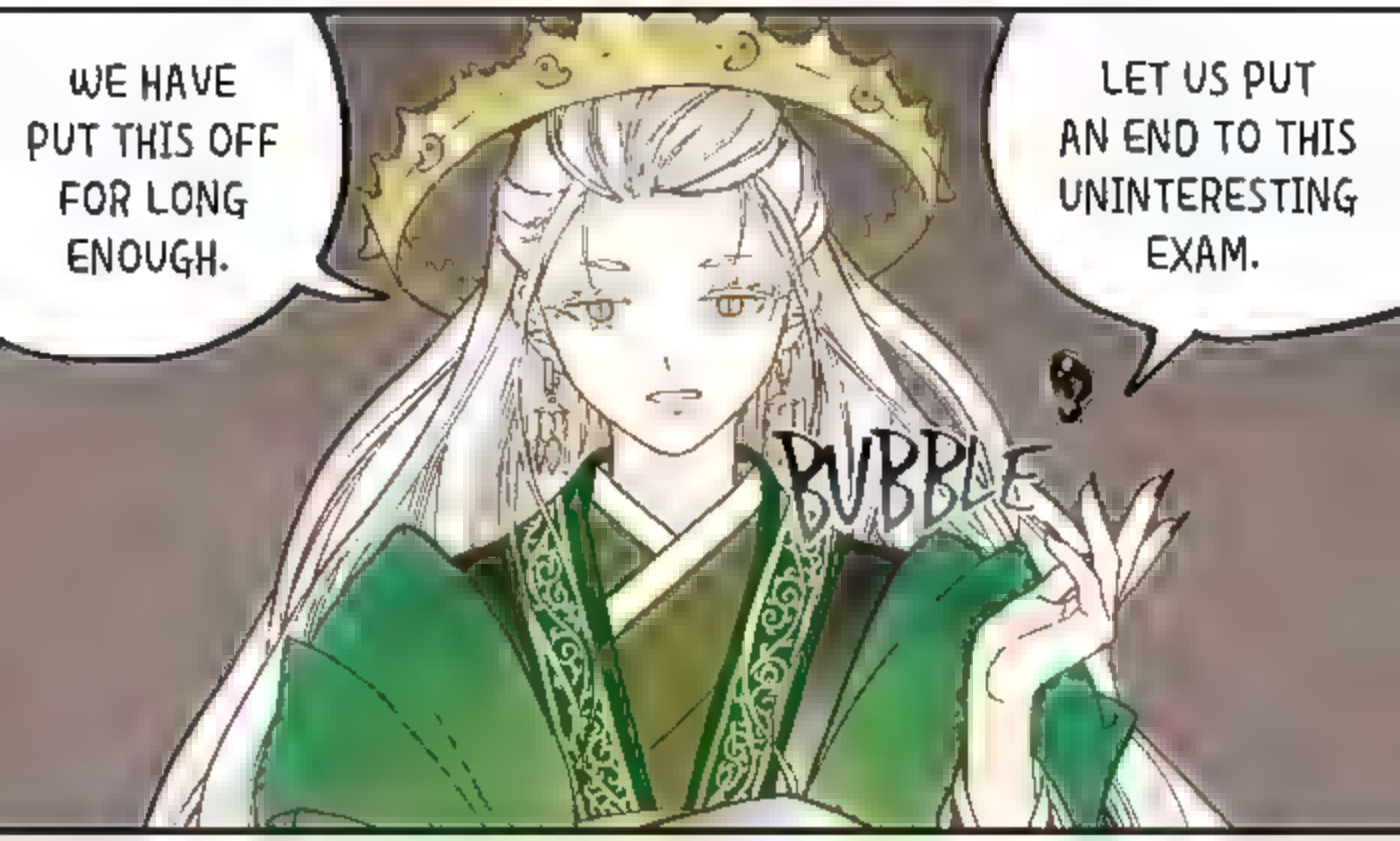

WHERE IS BARI, THE IMOOGI?
I HAVE BROUGHT HIM HERE, YOUR MAJESTY.

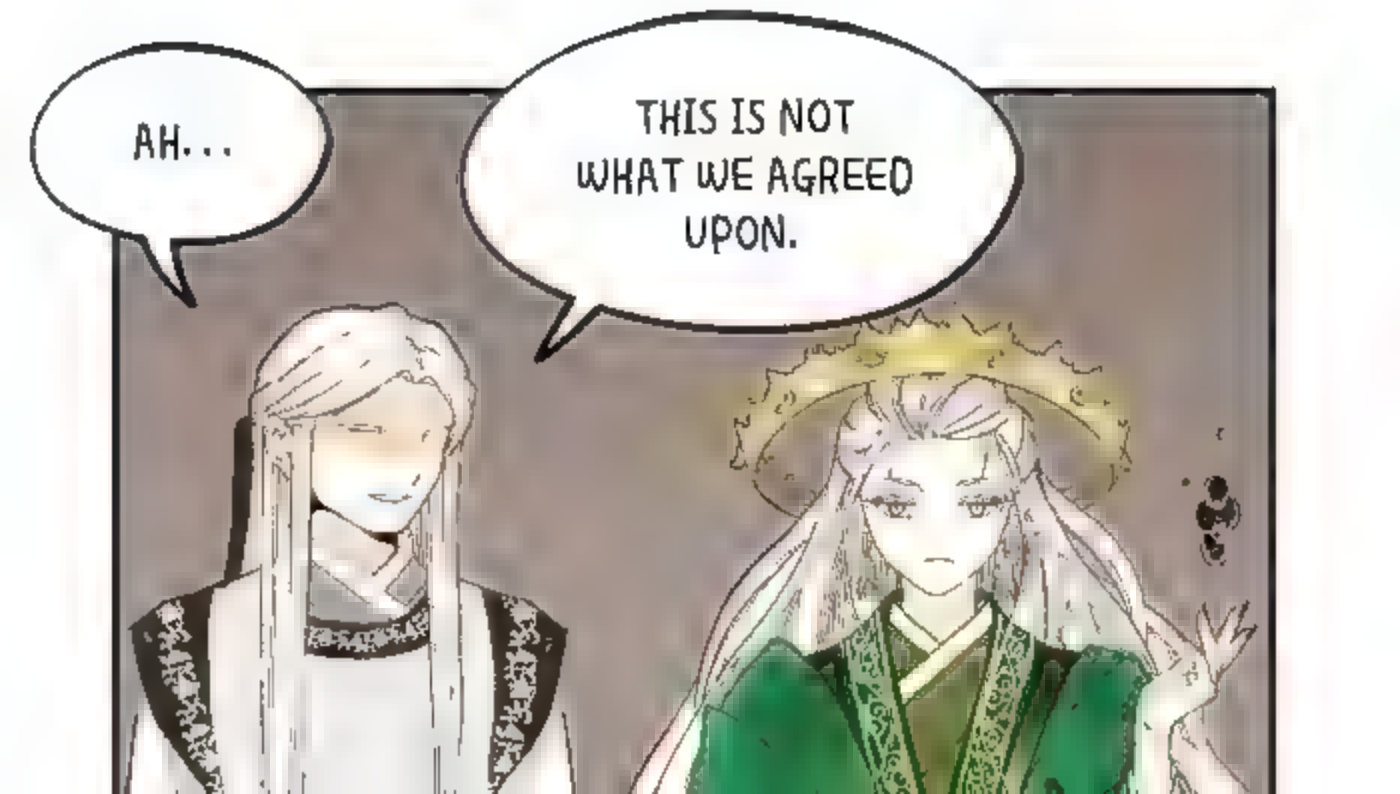
...!

VERY WELL, COME TO THE FRONT.

...

STEP


WE HAVE PUT THIS OFF FOR LONG ENOUGH.
LET US PUT AN END TO THIS UNINTERESTING EXAM.
BUBBLE


AH...
THIS IS NOT WHAT WE AGREED UPON.

...

FINE.
IT WOULD BE INAUSPICIOUS TO SEE BLOOD ON SUCH A JOYOUS OCCASION.
I SHALL GRANT YOU MERCY.
SWISH

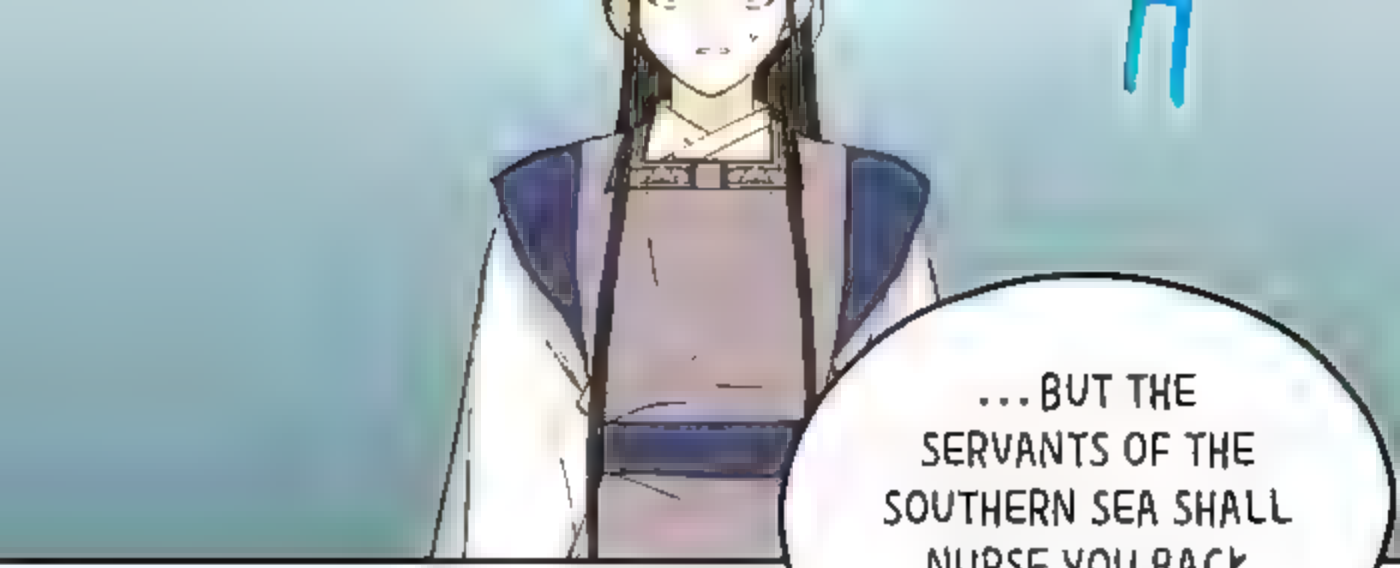
SINCE I AM TOLD DEATH IS AN EXCESSIVE PUNISHMENT...

BUBBLE

...I SHALL ONLY TAKE PART OF YOUR LIFESPAN.

DO NOT WORRY. IT WILL BE AS PAINFUL AS DYING...

FWSHHH

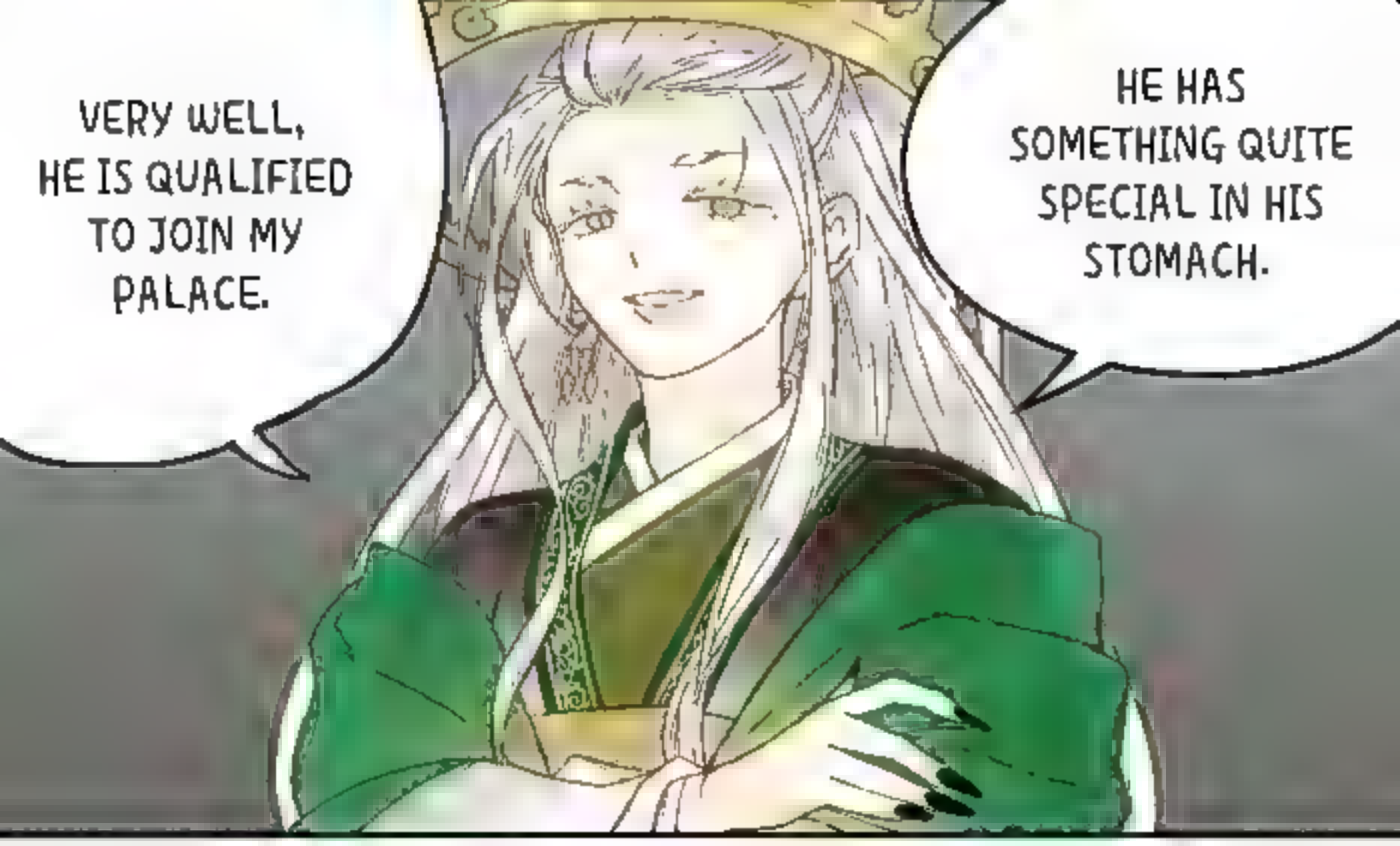

...BUT THE SERVANTS OF THE SOUTHERN SEA SHALL NURSE YOU BACK TO HEALTH.

EITHER WAY, THE HUMAN THAT YOU DO NOT CHOOSE...

...SHALL BE IN THE BOWEOL VAULT FOREVER.

"TRAPPED" IS A STRONG WORD.
THEY WILL BE ABLE TO LIVE FREELY IN THE SOUTHERN DRAGON PALACE FOREVER,
SO WHOEVER YOU CHOOSE, IT WILL NOT BE A TERRIBLE DECISION, BARI.

ONCE YOU BECOME A DRAGON, YOUR HUMAN TRAINER WILL BE ABLE TO ASSIST YOU IN TAKING CONTROL OF YOUR RIVER.
IT WOULD BE EQUALLY GOOD FOR HIM TO USE HIS TALENTS IN THE SOUTHERN SEA.
...!
WHY DO THEY KEEP HINTING THAT THEY WANT YOUNG...?

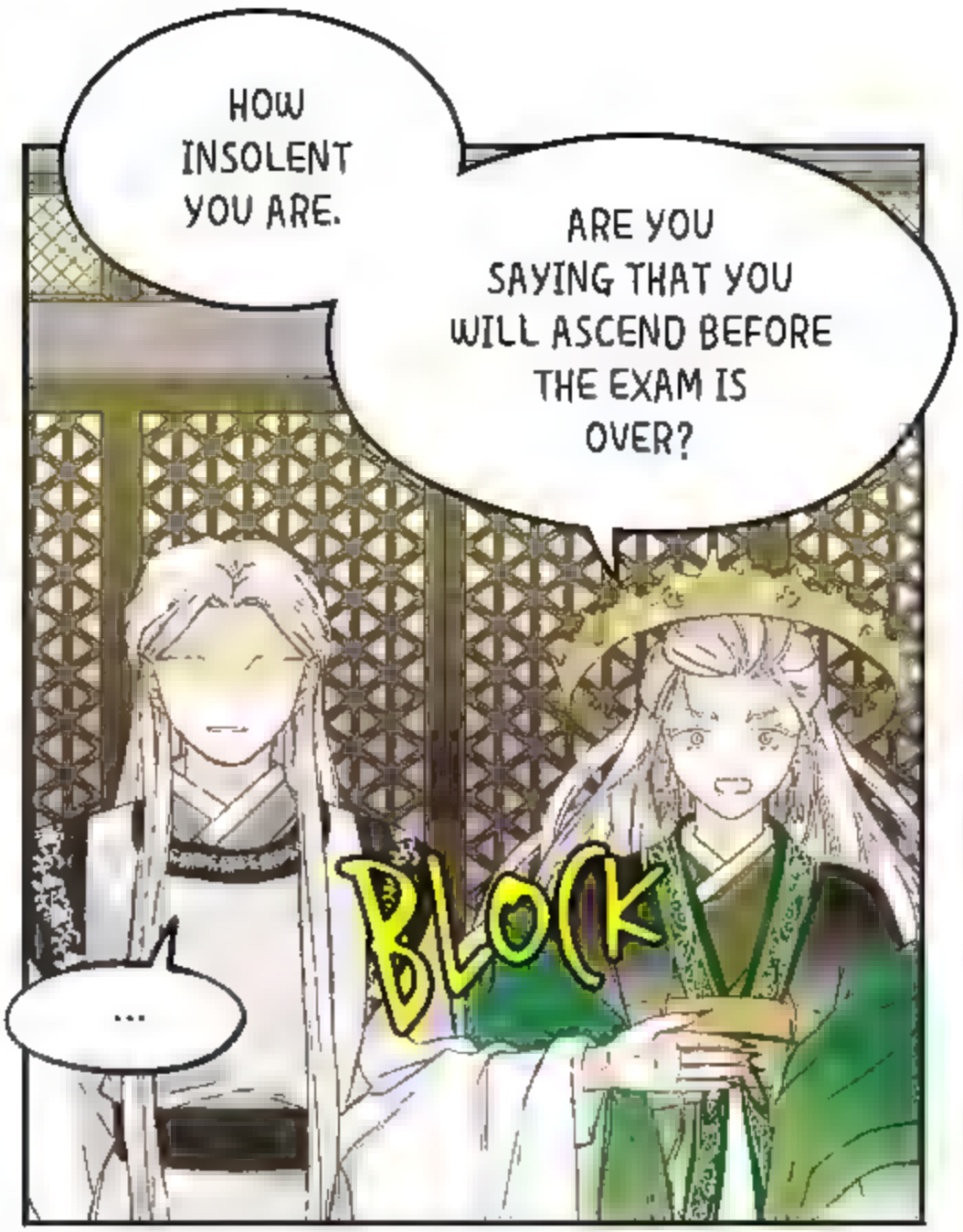

VERY WELL, HE IS QUALIFIED TO JOIN MY PALACE.
HE HAS SOMETHING QUITE SPECIAL IN HIS STOMACH.

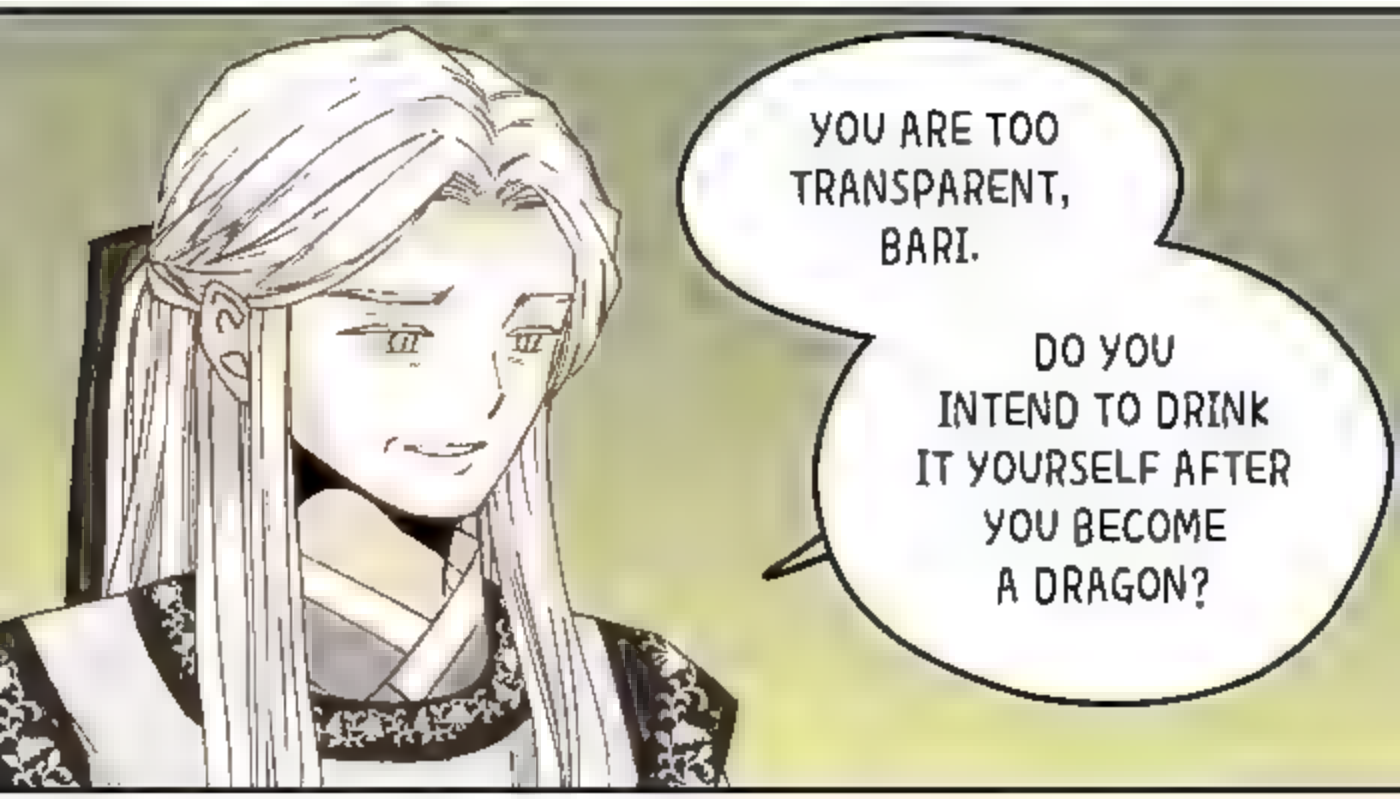
NOW...
WHO WILL YOU CHOOSE?

...
GULP
I...

...

MAY I CHOOSE...
...AFTER I BECOME A DRAGON?


HOW INSOLENT YOU ARE.
ARE YOU SAYING THAT YOU WILL ASCEND BEFORE THE EXAM IS OVER?
...
BLOCK


YOU ARE TOO TRANSPARENT, BARI.
DO YOU INTEND TO DRINK IT YOURSELF AFTER YOU BECOME A DRAGON?

IF YOU ARE THINKING OF RASHLY THROWING YOURSELF INTO DANGER LIKE YOU DID BACK THEN...

...I AM DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED.

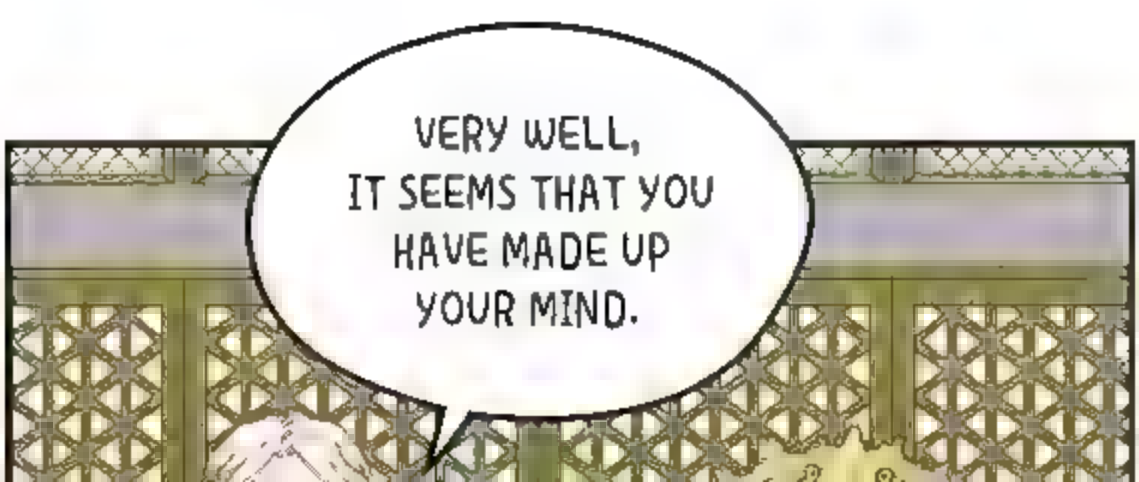
BEFORE I TREASURE OTHERS,
I MUST TREASURE MYSELF ABOVE ALL ELSE.
TURN
MY TEACHER TAUGHT ME THAT.

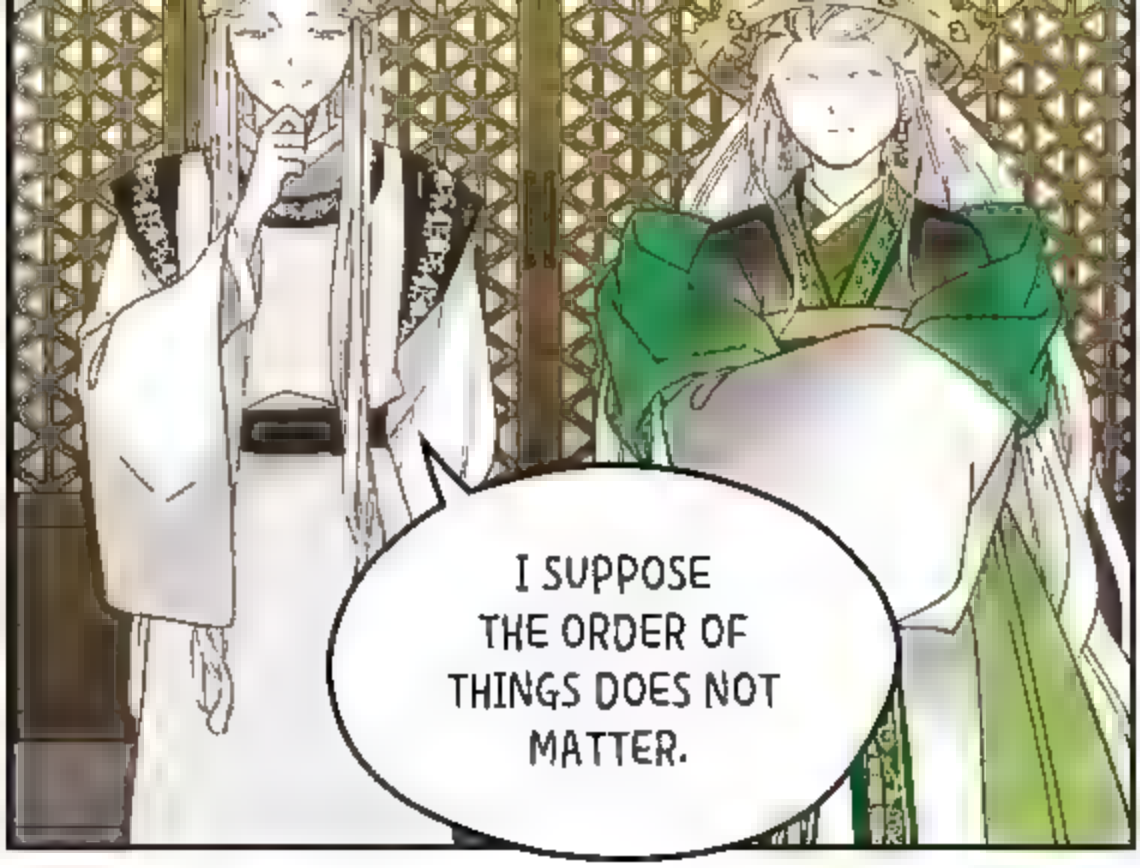
YOU KNOW...

YOU NEED TO TREASURE YOURSELF ABOVE ANYTHING ELSE.

SMILE

...

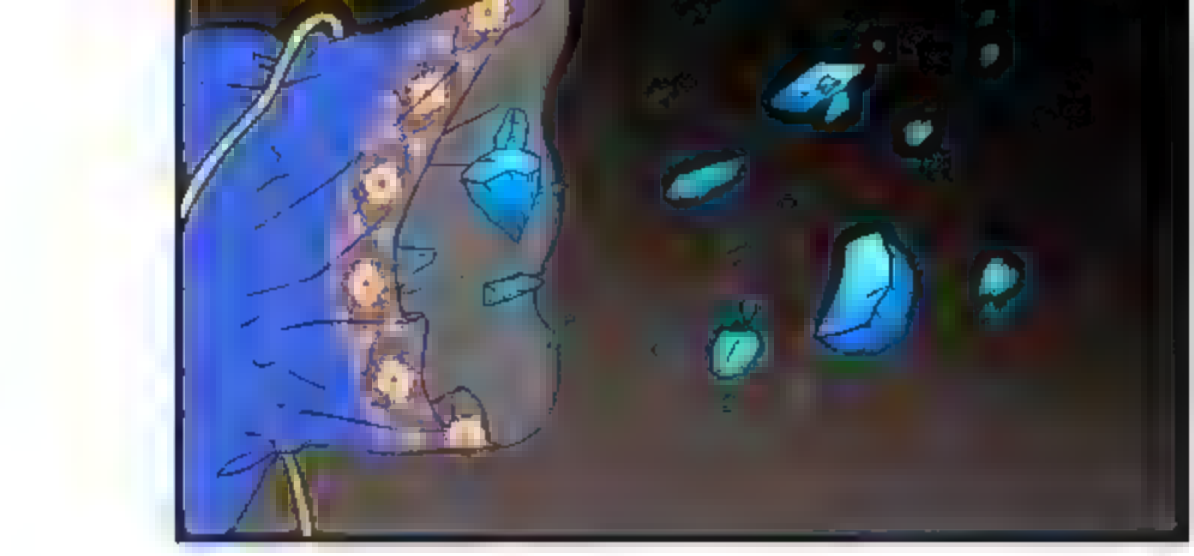

VERY WELL,
IT SEEMS THAT YOU
HAVE MADE UP
YOUR MIND.


I SUPPOSE THE ORDER OF THINGS DOES NOT MATTER.

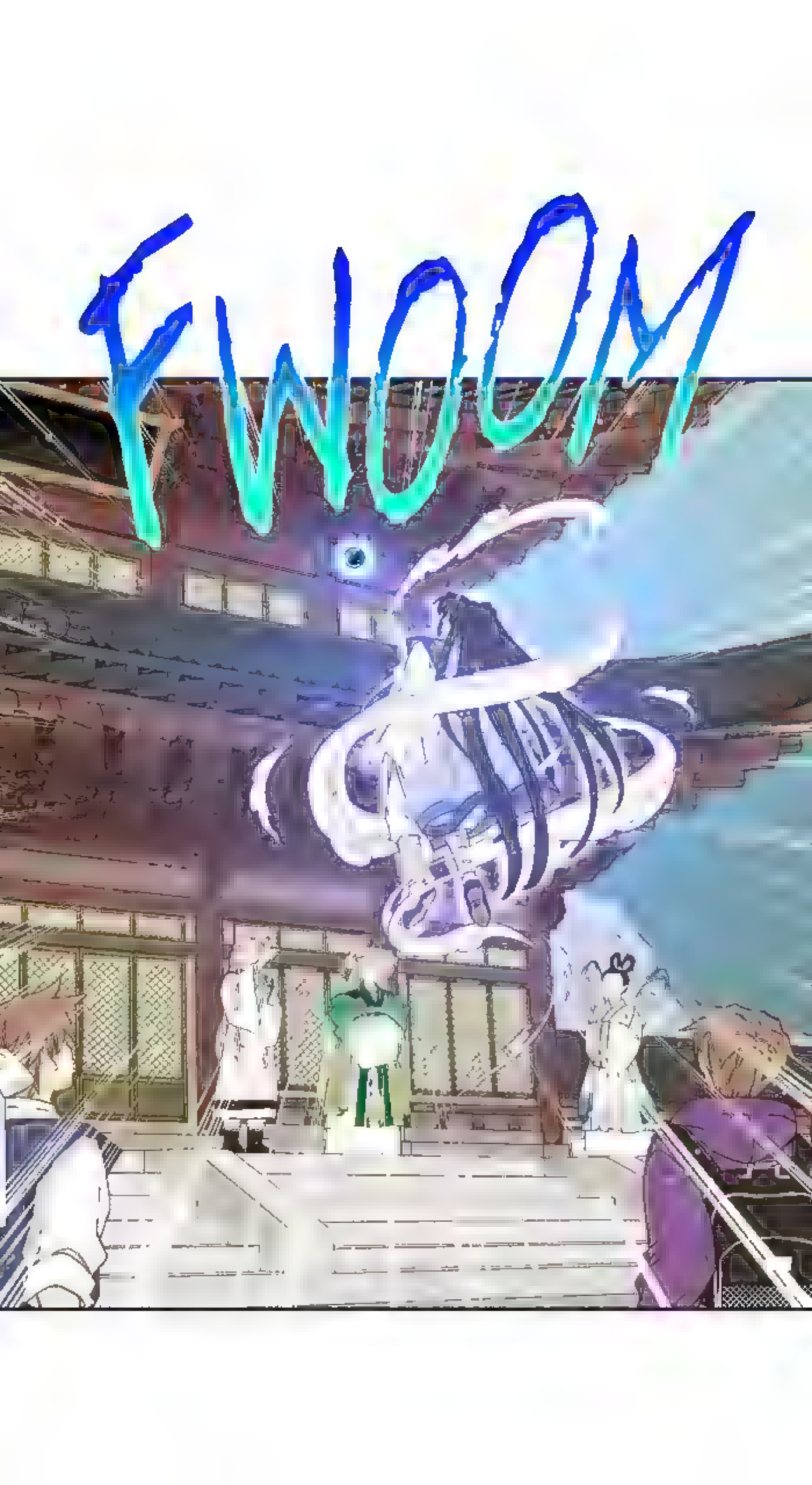
I NOW NAME...

...BARI, THE IMOOGI OF MOUNT BAEKUN...

JANGLE

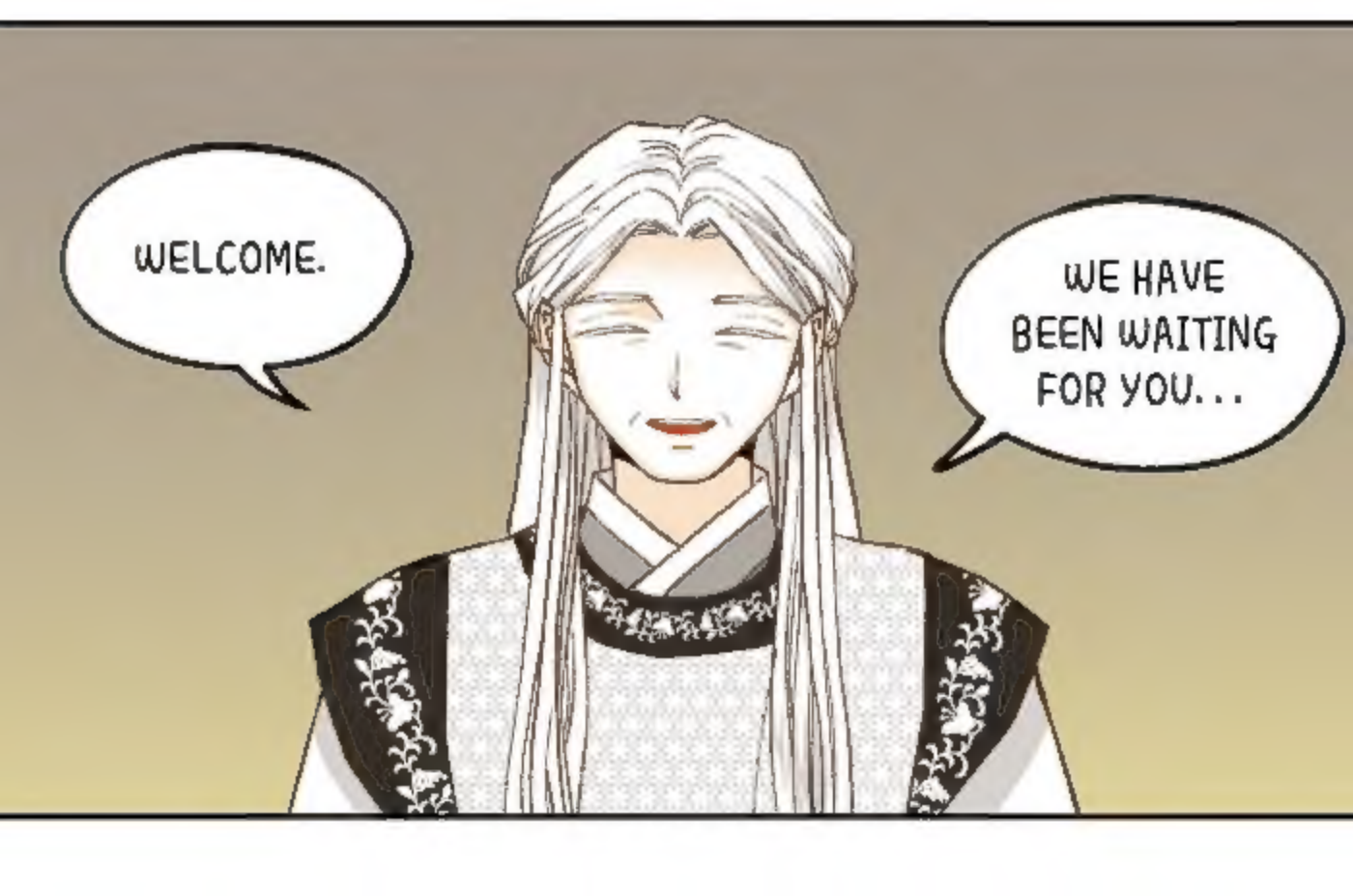


FWSHHH


FWOOM

WHOOSH

STEP



...THE NEW DRAGON...
...OF THE NAKDONG RIVER.

Story/Art eon

Assistance stinis

HD

Gwang-gyu